

## CLAIMS:

1. An optical recording medium comprising at least one recording layer and a dielectric layer formed in the vicinity of the at least one recording layer, the dielectric layer containing an oxide as a primary component and being added with nitrogen.

2. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the dielectric layer contains an oxide selected from a group consisting of  $Ta_2O_5$  and  $TiO_2$  as a primary component.

3. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the at least one recording layer is constituted so that data can be recorded therein by a laser beam having a wavelength of 380 nm to 450 nm.

4. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the at least one recording layer is constituted so that data can be recorded therein by a laser beam having a wavelength of 380 nm to 450 nm.

5. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the at least one recording layer includes a first recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary component in the first recording film as a primary component.

6. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the at least one recording layer includes a first recording film containing

an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary component in the first recording film as a primary component.

7. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the second recording film is formed so as to be in contact with the first recording film.

8. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the second recording film is formed so as to be in contact with the first recording film.

9. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the first recording film contains an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge and Sn as a primary component.

10. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the first recording film contains an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge and Sn as a primary component.

11. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the second recording film contains Cu as a primary component.

12. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the second recording film contains Cu as a primary component.

13. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the second recording film is added with an element selected from the group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn, Ag, Mg, Sn, Au, Ti and Pd and different from the element contained in the first recording film as a primary component.

14. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the second recording film is added with an element selected from the group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn, Ag, Mg, Sn, Au, Ti and Pd and different from the element contained in the first recording film as a primary component.

15. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 1 which comprises two or more recording layers spaced apart from each other and dielectric layers each formed in the vicinity of one the recording layers, at least the dielectric layer formed in the vicinity of the recording layer closest to a light incidence plane containing an oxide as a primary component and nitrogen as an additive.

16. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the dielectric layer contains an oxide selected from a group consisting of  $Ta_2O_5$  and  $TiO_2$  as a primary component.

17. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 15, wherein each of the recording layers includes a first recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of

Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary component in the first recording film as a primary component.

18. An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 16,  
5 wherein each of the recording layers includes a first recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary  
10 component in the first recording film as a primary component.

19. A method for manufacturing an optical recording medium comprising at least one recording layer and a dielectric layer provided in the vicinity of the at least one recording layer, the method for  
15 manufacturing an optical recording medium comprising a step of forming the dielectric layer by vapor-phase growth of an oxide in an atmosphere of a mixed gas containing nitrogen gas.

20. A method for manufacturing an optical recording medium in  
20 accordance with Claim 19, which comprises a step of forming the dielectric layer by a sputtering process so as to contain an oxide as a primary component and nitrogen as an additive.